HANDING OVER OF ECHS SMART CARD TO ECHS BENEFICIARIES

1. 64 KB Smart Card is being filled ‘online’ followed by ‘online’ verification before the data goes to the Card making company to print & despatch the Cards. Contracting company despatches the Smart Cards to Regional Centres in Station Headquarter packets. Regional Centres despatch these Stn HQ packets to Stn HQs.

2. Once the Cards are received at Station Headquarters, these have to be accounted for. SMS is sent to the beneficiary alongwith OTP to come & collect Card at the Stn HQ. Once OTP is ‘fed’ into the system, activated card is handed over to the beneficiary for use.

3. Station Headquarters are currently responsible not only for issue of new Smart Cards but also to collect old cards/temp slips besides physical verification of all beneficiaries as this is the only stage when physical presence is being used for authentication.

4. A number of Ex-Servicemen have represented that they are finding it inconvenient to take all the beneficiaries to the dependent Station Headquarters for collection of ECHS Cards besides Station Headquarters being far off from their place of residence.

5. The competent authority has approved the following for collecting new 64 Kb Cards from respective Station Headquarters :-

   (a) The primary beneficiary can collect his own card and the cards of his dependents from Station Headquarters.

   (b) The primary beneficiary will be responsible to handover all the old Cards/Temp Slip as applicable to Station Headquarters while collecting the Cards of self and dependents.

   (c) The primary beneficiary will be responsible to produce required documents to establish that the dependents are entitled for the ECHS Card.

   (d) The Station HQ can also distribute the Cards at Polyclinic on specified days/dates and any nominated location on a pre announced date, as per the procedure laid down for online endorsement & accounting of Cards & documents.
6. Option of video call based verification using mobile, if needed, could also be utilized.

7. Station Headquarters will continue to remain responsible for accounting.

8. Regional Centres to fwd a copy of this letter to all Station Headquarters covering their Polyclinics.

(Rakesh Kakar)
Col (Retd)
Jt Dir (Stats & Automation)
for MD ECHS

Copy to:

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Coast Guard HQs, New Delhi
DIAV/DESA
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Internal
All Sections